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10 February 1976

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MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: White House Drafting Group Session

1. At a meeting today of the drafting group at the White House, we discussed the proposed assassination bill. I left with the group a copy of our proposed comments. I made the point, however, that the real issue was whether or not such a bill would put in jeopardy people who had to plan paramilitary operations, such as assisting insurgents. There was general agreement that we had such a point. Bill Funk of Justice made the strong point that from a political standpoint the White House was desirous of having the President support the bill since it was proposed by the Senate Select Committee.

2. Perhaps we could talk to some of the staffers to see if they agree with our concerns, possibly agreeing to words such as in our comments which would cure the problem.

3. We then discussed in general terms the bill on mail opening. Again I left with them a copy of our detailed comments, but made the basic pitch that CIA did not think such a bill should be advanced; certainly it should not be as it is now in terms of mail openings to obtain foreign intelligence. I took the position that CIA is not interested in having mail openings with judicial warrants for the purpose of collecting positive foreign intelligence. Basically this leaves the bill an FBI bill; but on the other hand, probably everything that they could reasonably get a warrant on under the bill they could accomplish under existing law.

STAT



JOHN S. WARNER  
General Counsel

cc: SC/DCI  
ADD Meeting Members  
C/Review Staff